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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Belgium, Greece, Norway, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: revised draft resolution

Bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing the fundamental changes that have taken place with respect to international security, which have permitted agreements on deep reductions in the nuclear armaments of the States possessing the largest inventories of such weapons,

Mindful that it is the responsibility and obligation of all States to contribute to the process of the relaxation of international tension and to the strengthening of international peace and security,

Stressing the importance of strengthening international peace and security through disarmament,

Emphasizing that nuclear disarmament remains one of the principal tasks of our times,

Stressing that it is the responsibility of all States to adopt and implement measures towards the attainment of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Appreciating a number of positive developments in the field of nuclear disarmament, in particular the treaty between the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles 1/ and the treaties on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms,

Noting that there are still significant nuclear arsenals and that the primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament, with the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons, rests with the nuclear-weapon States, in particular those which possess the largest stockpiles,

Welcoming the steps that have already been taken by those States to begin the process of reducing the number of nuclear weapons and removing such weapons from a deployed status, and bilateral agreements on the issue of de-targeting strategic nuclear missiles,

Noting the new climate of relations between the United States of America and the States of the former Soviet Union, which permits them to intensify their cooperative efforts to ensure the safety, security and environmentally sound destruction of nuclear weapons,

Noting also that the Russian Federation and the United States of America concurred that, once the Treaty between them on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms was ratified, they would proceed to deactivate all strategic delivery systems to be reduced under the Treaty by removing their nuclear warheads or taking other steps to remove them from alert status,

Noting further the agreement between the Russian Federation and the United States of America to intensify their dialogue to compare conceptual approaches and to develop concrete steps to adapt the nuclear forces and practices on both sides to the changed international security situation, including the possibility, after ratification of the Treaty on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, of further reductions of and limitations on remaining nuclear forces,

Urging the further intensification of such efforts to accelerate the implementation of agreements and unilateral decisions relating to nuclear-arms reduction,

Welcoming the reduction made by other nuclear-weapon States in some of their nuclear-weapon programmes, and encouraging all nuclear-weapon States to consider appropriate measures relating to nuclear disarmament,

Affirming that bilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament should facilitate and complement each other,

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1/ The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix VII.

1. Welcomes the actions taken towards the ratification of the Treaty between the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms signed in Moscow on 31 July 1991 and the protocol to that Treaty signed at Lisbon on 23 May 1992 by the parties thereto, inter alia, the trilateral statement by the Presidents of the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America signed on 14 January 1994, 2/ and urges the parties to take the necessary steps to ensure the Treaty's entry into force at the earliest possible date;

2. Also welcomes the signing of the Treaty between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United States of America on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms in Moscow on 3 January 1993, and urges the parties to take the steps necessary to bring that Treaty into force by the earliest possible date;

3. Expresses its satisfaction at the continuing implementation of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, 1/ in particular at the completion by the parties of the destruction of all their declared missiles subject to elimination under the Treaty;

4. Encourages the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine to continue their cooperative efforts aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and strategic offensive arms on the basis of existing agreements, and welcomes the contributions that other States are making to such cooperation as well;

5. Welcomes the accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons 3/ of Belarus and Kazakhstan as non-nuclear-weapon States and would welcome similar action on the part of Ukraine;

6. Encourages and supports the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their efforts to reduce their nuclear armaments and to continue to give those efforts the highest priority in order to contribute to the objective of the elimination of nuclear weapons;

7. Invites the Russian Federation and the United States of America to keep other States Members of the United Nations duly informed of progress in their discussions and in the implementation of their strategic offensive arms agreements and unilateral decisions.

2/ A/49/66-S/1994/91, annex.

3/ Resolution 2373 (XXII), annex.